

CLAIM AMENDMENT**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1–20 without prejudice to the underlying subject matter. Please add claims 21–50.

1–20. (Canceled).

21. (New) A method for maintaining a whois database, comprising:
extracting a plurality of unique identifiers from an audit file, each unique identifier corresponding to a modified domain name record within a registrar database; and
for each unique identifier:

determining whether a first corresponding domain name record exists within the registrar database,

if the first corresponding domain name record exists, retrieving the first corresponding domain name record from the registrar database,

determining whether a second corresponding domain name record exists within the whois database,

if the second corresponding domain name record exists, retrieving the second corresponding domain name record from the whois database,

comparing the first corresponding domain name record to the second corresponding domain name record, and

updating the second corresponding domain name record based on the first corresponding domain name record.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

if the first corresponding domain name record does not exist, deleting the second domain name record from the whois database.

23. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

if the second corresponding domain name record does not exist, adding the first domain name record to the whois database.

24. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

discarding duplicate unique identifiers from the plurality of unique identifiers.

25. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the modified domain name record consists of an added domain name record, a deleted domain name record and a changed domain name record.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the audit file includes an indicator associated with each unique identifier, the indicator consisting of an added indicator, a deleted indicator and changed indicator.

27. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the audit file includes modified domain name information associated with each unique identifier.

28. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the plurality of unique identifiers is associated with a time period.

29. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

tagging the audit file to identify previously extracted unique identifiers.

30. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the whois database is a copy of the registrar database.

31. (New) A computer-readable medium including instructions adapted to be executed by a processor to perform a method for maintaining a whois database, the method comprising:

extracting a plurality of unique identifiers from an audit file, each unique identifier corresponding to a modified domain name record within a registrar database; and

for each unique identifier:

determining whether a first corresponding domain name record exists within the registrar database,

if the first corresponding domain name record exists, retrieving the first corresponding domain name record from the registrar database,

determining whether a second corresponding domain name record exists within the whois database,

if the second corresponding domain name record exists, retrieving the second corresponding domain name record from the whois database,

comparing the first corresponding domain name record to the second corresponding domain name record, and

updating the second corresponding domain name record based on the first corresponding domain name record.

32. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the method further comprises:

if the first corresponding domain name record does not exist, deleting the second domain name record from the whois database.

33. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the method further comprises:

if the second corresponding domain name record does not exist, adding the first domain name record to the whois database.

34. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the method further comprises:

discarding duplicate unique identifiers from the plurality of unique identifiers.

35. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the modified domain name record consists of an added domain name record, a deleted domain name record and a changed domain name record.

36. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 35, wherein the audit file includes an indicator associated with each unique identifier, the indicator consisting of an added indicator, a deleted indicator and changed indicator.

37. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the audit file includes modified domain name information associated with each unique identifier.

38. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the plurality of unique identifiers is associated with a time period.

39. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the method further comprises:

tagging the audit file to identify previously extracted unique identifiers.

40. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein the whois database is a copy of the registrar database.

41. (New) A system, comprising:

a network;

a registrar computer, coupled to the network, including a registrar database having a plurality of domain name records and an audit file having a plurality of unique identifiers, each unique identifier corresponding to a modified domain name record within the registrar database; and

a whois computer, coupled to the network, including a processor and a memory coupled to the processor, the memory including a whois database having a plurality of domain name records and instructions adapted to be executed by the processor to perform a method, the method comprising:

extracting the plurality of unique identifiers from the audit file; and

for each unique identifier:

determining whether a first corresponding domain name record exists within the registrar database,

if the first corresponding domain name record exists, retrieving the first corresponding domain name record from the registrar database,

determining whether a second corresponding domain name record exists within the whois database,

if the second corresponding domain name record exists, retrieving the second corresponding domain name record from the whois database,

comparing the first corresponding domain name record to the second corresponding domain name record, and

updating the second corresponding domain name record based on the first corresponding domain name record.

42. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the method further comprises:

if the first corresponding domain name record does not exist, deleting the second domain name record from the whois database.

43. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the method further comprises:

if the second corresponding domain name record does not exist, adding the first domain name record to the whois database.

44. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the method further comprises:

discarding duplicate unique identifiers from the plurality of unique identifiers.

45. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the modified domain name record consists of an added domain name record, a deleted domain name record and a changed domain name record.

46. (New) The system of claim 45, wherein the audit file includes an indicator associated with each unique identifier, the indicator consisting of an added indicator, a deleted indicator and changed indicator.

47. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the method further comprises, wherein the audit file includes modified domain name information associated with each unique identifier.

48. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the method further comprises, wherein the plurality of unique identifiers is associated with a time period.

49. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the method further comprises:

tagging the audit file to identify previously extracted unique identifiers.

50. (New) The system of claim 41, wherein the whois database is a copy of the registrar database.